

Live Dungeon! - WN Chapter 01-03

Table of Contents

1. [Chapter 001](#)
2. [Chapter 002](#)
3. [Chapter 003](#)

Chapter 001

Hi guys, decided on a whim to translate this work as a teaser for maybe 2-3 chapters. More of a game-like story with a lot of game/MMORPG terms in Japanese that I had to look up for >.< haha but the writing is excellent, on par or even slightly better than Invincible Saint from first impressions but that also meant it was even harder to translate than Invincible Saint >.< Enjoy and let me know what you think about the novel!

Chapter 001

Translator: Tseirp

The free-to-play MMORPG with the aim to capture the dungeon and reach the lowest floor, Live Dungeon. Living alone in an apartment, Kyotani Tsutomu booted up 5 laptops and today as well, continued to develop his character with the same name.

Sucking on a jelly drink, Tsutomu looked at the characters displayed on the 5 laptops. The first character he raised had a healer profession. Followed by a tank and an attacker and they all reached counter stop. The last one he raised was a magic tank which would soon reach counter stop as well. (*TL: Counter stop = Level cap*)

The game's aim is to conquer dungeons and reach the lowest floor but it is an MMORPG so naturally the basic action was to form a party with others. Thus, about 2 years ago, Tsutomu also formed parties with guild members, friends as well as people he did not know and dived into the dungeon.

However, the passage of time is cruel. Live Dungeon, an MMORPG which began service 7 years ago, will stop service in a month.

When Tsutomu acquired his first computer when he was a high school student, Live Dungeon was the first game he played. Tsutomu had played the game for approximately 6 years. It is appropriate to decorate its final journey. Tsutomu thought.

To conquer the dungeon's lowest floor solo. However, Live Dungeon is an

MMORPG. It was designed such that it is impossible to conquer a dungeon solo. Hence, Tsutomu bought a second-hand laptop and borrowed the remaining 3 laptops from his university friends and seniors. As expected of a game from 7 years ago, the required specifications for the laptops was low so even worn-out laptops could run the game without a hitch.

(It's over ...)

Tsutomu confirmed that his final character's level reached counter stop and he casually threw the empty jelly drink into the rubbish can. And then, as if to spur his motivations, he clenched his fists and cracked his knuckles. From here on will be the real thrill of Live Dungeon.

Just like how Live Dungeon is named, the game had the function of transmitting the dungeon conquer online. The setting was that the gods managing the dungeon furnished the functions to kill time by watching humans fight. Incidentally, that functions can be updated repeatedly and transmitted over the net, resulting in large bulletin boards that showed 「God, net launch」.

However, Tsutomu only went to those that were delivered by the game. Those services were usually left to bots but it was more relieving. Since there would be the criticizing eyes of others toward his solitary play if it was transmitted over the net.

“Well then, shall I begin.”

Tsutomu tightened his face that his friends always tells him to pull himself together and connected each of the characters to the same server. “I'll be in your care”, he typed the stereotypical expression in the party chat and applied to enter a party.

The roles in a party are categorized into 3 main roles. Tanks (shield-bearers), attackers (damage-dealers) and healers (healers). Tsutomu had 2 tanks, a physical tank and a magic tank, and 2 attackers, a physical attacker and a magic attacker. Together with a healer, he challenged the dungeon.

The dungeons mostly change environment every 10 floors and the 100th floor is the lowest floor. There, the final boss, a Festering Ancient Dragon would appear.

There were also back dungeons but it is obviously not possible to do so while running 5 laptops alone. Hence, Tsutomu aimed to conquer the dungeon from the beginning. (*TL: Back/reverse dungeons = Same dungeon with higher difficulty I think*)

Nevertheless, the dungeon conquering plan was drawn up when he molded his characters during character creation and it was his first real attempt. Well, it would somehow work out if I spend his whole summer holiday, Tsutomu muttered to himself and pressed the enter key.

The first floor's grassland. The 10th floor's forest. The 20th floor's swamp. The 30th floor's wasteland. He had some trouble with the abnormal condition poison, but he could still barely bulldoze his way through relying on his level. The problem was the 40th floor's beach. To defeat the boss on that floor, the Shell Crab, he had to come up with a strategy to prevent it from burrowing into the ground.

Theoretically, it is possible to kill the boss before it burrows into the ground but it was too difficult for Tsutomu to do so alone so he had to anticipate where the boss would burrow out of. There were 3 locations the boss would move to depending on its percentage of stamina, knowing about them beforehand, he could prevent it from fully recovering and he planted himself before 2 of the locations and succeeded in bringing the boss down quickly.

It was instant death if one fell off into the depths in the 50th floor's canyon. There were various traps and densely packed mobs to cause him to fall but thanks to the wind magic applied to the entire party, he could nullify most of it. Tsutomu carefully advanced while making sure not to get targeted by the flying dragons flying about.

The boss of the canyon was a Fire Dragon. If he did not have flying tools he would have had to count his blessings and fallen to hell, but with range attacks, he weakened the wings and ganged up on the boss after it fell to the ground, obtaining victory.

The 60th floor was a volcano. There were plenty of instant death gimmicks here as well so heat countermeasures were required. He had to change to heat-resistant equipment. The boss, a titan swimming in lava, sprinkles lava that

causes instant death to tanks but with heat-resistant countermeasures, it could be endured without issue.

The 70th floor's snowfield. This area was not as terrifying with protection against cold and measures against freezing but the thing to look out for was the perpetual spawning of the trash mob, Snow Wolf. Mainly in terms of operating. It was possible to face multiple opponents but operating 5 computers alone was harsh after all. That was the place that Tsutomu was the most fearful of.

As the suspended finger moved incessantly, Tsutomu somehow broke through and his hand trembled when he imagined a glimmer of hope for him to clear the dungeon. The end of this game was in sight.

The 80th floor was light and darkness. Used by the gods that made the dungeon, the main enemy mob were devils that self-proclaim themselves to be angels and fallen angels that kill the devils to create unspeakable undead. Here, it was required to have a means to attack monsters with holy and dark attribute. There was also a need for countermeasures against confusion and silence abnormal conditions.

And the boss was the ruin of what once was an archangel. Boasting a complex range of holy and dark attribute attacks as well as the abnormal condition silence that seals the use of magic. Mainly famous as the killer of healers, the lives of healers depended on their ability to evade or prevent the boss's attacks.

And the 90th floor was the ancient city. The door was opened by presenting the items dropped from the bosses. It should be noted that the boss drops are weapons and armor. In cases where an individual used them for materials, they would have to go through the bothersome process of hunting down the boss once again. Within the ancient city, every enemy mobs that have appeared until now spawned.

And then, the 100th floor appeared as an arena and the dungeon would be conquered if the Festering Ancient Dragon within it was defeated.

It had numerous ranged attacks with its breath that shaved off the durability of weapons and armors. Every time you attack it, your weapon's durability would decrease as well. It boasted high magic resistance so it's called a killer of attackers but in exchange holy attribute attacks can damage it. Healers could

participate in attacking as well so there would not be a fall in attacking power.

Rely on his familiarity with operating the characters, Tsutomu moved unconsciously and defeated the Festering Ancient Dragon. Tsutomu confirmed the 4 characters displayed “Back Dungeon unleashed!” and looked with a weary and dazed expression.

(I've been through all kinds of situations huh.)

He had the tables turned on himself when he dived solo into the dungeon for the first time. He was enraged when he faced provocative actions after he died in the dungeon and was sent to the respawn location.

When he first joined a stray party and took on the role of the healer, he garnered so much hate that it became his sensitive topic.

The first guild he joined split into a voice chat group and a non-voice chat group and disbanded. The next guild encountered a troll and disbanded. Finally, he made his own guild and struggled with it but he continued until there was nobody left in it.

During his first defensive war, he was PK-ed and lost everything except for his rare items.

The first time he conquered a dungeon by leeching, he was verbally abused over voice chat by the attacker and tank.

(Eh? Pretty much nothing good happened!)

No, no, there were good memories as well. Once he memorized his role, he enjoyed playing as a healer and the attacker and tank had some fun as well and had to forcibly acknowledge him, he thought as he returned to the plaza. Upon arriving, there was an individual doing a clapping motion in the middle of the plaza.

(There's no name display ... NPC? He should not appear even after conquering a dungeon.)

He made his 5 characters gesture among themselves and he received a personal chat.

“Congratulations on conquering the dungeon alone! Allow me to present this

to you!"

Along with that chat, the NPC performed a handing over motion. Tsutomu stopped at the word 'alone'. He immediately thought of the reason why he knew he was alone.

(Was he watching?)

After playing Live Dungeon for a certain period, you would be able to infer that it was a solo player from the stiff movements. However, this person did not have a name above him, he could only imagine that he was a bot or a person in the server.

(Perhaps he is an admin ... ? Uwah. What sophisticated arrangement.)

The faint-hearted Tsutomu was moved to tears and he wondered if he should write on the nostalgic bulletin board to boast as he received the item from the admin.

"Acquired the invitation from the gods."

The instant he received the item, the laptop forcefully emitted light.

(Eh! Did the computer freeze!?)

Along with that thought, Tsutomu's consciousness, like upon severing the power source of a laptop, ceased.

— — ▽▽ — —

The ancient city that people have long forgotten about. Tsutomu woke up at the arena of the forgotten ancient city.

"Ugh. This is?"

He restlessly looked around but the surrounding was awfully dim. His fuzzy mind thought that the surroundings look similar to Live Dungeon's 100th floor.

(A dream huh.)

Tsutomu concluded and stood up, patting his behind to brush off the dust. He was surprised by the rattling of his clothes and looked down to see red leather pants. His upper body wore a chainmail together with a robe. Even brown shoes and a black gem inlaid cane.

(Uwa my ability to recall is great. Let's try to strike with magic!)

Raising his cane and performing various poses, Tsutomu was surprised by a guttural roar. Tsutomu fell over from the shock and looked toward the cloudy sky.

In the beginning, he saw a distant small speck of a black object in the sky. He saw that it was gradually becoming larger as it rapidly fell toward him.

Tsutomu blocked his ears against the roar that it had not yet bellowed out as he unsteadily stood up and ran away from that spot. He forcefully moved the foot he stumbled on and ran with all his might. Then, something gigantic gave out an enormous pressure of wind as it descended onto the center of the arena.

Rotten fallen pupils. The decayed body of an ancient dragon with numerous holes. Tsutomu's legs trembled at the sight of the creature that was way too large beyond the norm and sat down on the spot.

(I'm guessing ... it's the Festering Ancient Dragon.)

Even though his teeth were chattering he still maintained that this was a dream. While gripping onto the earth on the surface, Tsutomu mouthed that this was a dream. Feeling the earth crumble within his hand, the thought that this might not be a dream crossed his mind.

Tsutomu was dominated by such thoughts. The pupil-less eyes of the Festering Ancient Dragon looked toward him. Then, the Festering Ancient Dragon curled its nauseating body and released a breath toward the ground. A breath with vomit that corrodes everything it touches. The immobile Tsutomu squarely received the surging tidal wave-like breath.

The moment the breath touched the arms he held in front of him, they began to dissolve into something like a syrup. Within the blink of an eye, everything from the wrist down decayed and fell down.

(ligyaaaaaaaaa!!)

The breath immediately covered his entire body and the pain felt like insects swarmed his entire body and began biting down on it. His body gradually fell as if he was sinking into a swamp. His face also received the breath and began decaying, causing him to lose his sense of sight, sound, and smell. All that

remained was pain.

That feeling of pain suddenly disappeared from Tsutomu.

Then, Tsutomu's body emitted pale light particles and disappeared from the arena of the ancient city.

All that remained was the Festering Ancient Dragon that nestled in an unknown location as well as the equipment that was worn by Tsutomu.

[Previous](#) | [Main](#) |

Related

Chapter 002

Ooo the chapters for this novel are loooonngg.

Chapter 002

Translator: Tseirp

“Gehi!”

Tsutomu fell face first onto a wooden floor and gave out a noise like a crushed frog. Boisterous sounds entered his ears and without even realizing it, he was wearing a set of shabby pale brown clothes.

Tsutomu groped his own body and sighed a breath of relief when he confirmed that he still had his hands. When he was in the midst of confirming that there weren't any abnormalities in his body, the man standing beside him grabbed his collar and forcibly picked him up.

“Fumu, seems like it is the first time you're experiencing returning after death. Can you stand on your own?”

“Ye, yes.”

The soldier-like man was dressed in top grade indigo clothes with a golden star badge attached to his chest. Getting picked up by him with a truly serious expression, Tsutomu supported himself with the black cane that he dropped and somehow managed to stand up.

Tsutomu had an average height of about 170cm but after standing up he

found that the man was close to 190cm. He was in a mental state similar to when he was spoken to by the police.

“You, where’s your status card?”

“Sta, status card?”

” ... You’re a diver huh.”

The tall man suspiciously narrowed his eyes at him and Tsutomu shrunk away in fear. The man stared at Tsutomu and spat out a sigh.

“This is the dungeon made by the Gods. Everybody have the right to step into the dungeon. ... However, I can only imagine that you are an orphan. And that cane. Where did you get that?”

” Erm ...”

” ... Looks like your memory is still cloudy. However, if you don’t possess a status card but carried that cane to dive into the dungeon, there would have been rumors about you. I guess it’s not your original equipment. However, I don’t believe there is anybody stupid enough to drop such a splendid cane at the grasslands. Which means perhaps that is an object from a treasure chest. Do you remember the color of the treasure chest?”

“... Erm. It was glittering and shining like this. As if it repelled the light of the sun.”

Under the rapid interrogation, Tsutomu replied without really understanding the situation. The black cane Tsutomu was holding on to was the highest ranking cane originally made from a rare drop obtained from the ancient city at the 90th floor. When Tsutomu described the characteristic of the treasure chest that gave out that rare drop, excitement surfaced on the man’s expression.

"That's ... precisely the type that gives out gifts from the Gods! You have excellent luck!"

Tsutomu gave a fake smile when the man suddenly began slapping his shoulder and he could finally look around the place. Dragonewts with closely packed red scales on their hands and feet. Beastmen with ears and tails of various animal characteristics nimbly moving about. The man delightfully slapping his shoulder had black dog ears pinned on his head and a black tail wagged left and right.

Of course, he also saw many ordinary humans. Individuals ogling at the reception desk ladies and individuals maintaining their armor. And there were also many ordinary people asking about their conditions in Tsutomu's surroundings.

"Oops, sorry. I was too excessively high in spirit. Shall we quickly go and get that appraised?"

"Ah, yes."

Tsutomu was slightly scared by the curious and restless gazes drawn on him but he walked as if he was led by the dog man. In the meantime, Tsutomu looked as far as possible into the surrounding scenery. Each and every person he saw was fantastical. Elves with sharp ears and blonde hair. Rugged old men with primary school kid's height. There were even people with feathers.

And the buildings were slightly alien. The building themselves were mostly regular wooden structures. However, the place that Tsutomu probably came out from had a pitch black door, as if it cut through space itself.

As Tsutomu was looking, the black door suddenly opened. 5 individuals wearing the same clothes as him were spat out and slammed onto the floor.

Then, similar to what happened to Tsutomu, staff dressed in indigo clothes called out to them and they left the building.

What caught his eye was the existence of completely fantasy-like electronic monitors that floated in the middle of the air. Projected on the hologram-like floating monitor was the image of a faction of individuals battling goblins.

“We’ve arrived. Please enter here.”

Without waiting for a reply, he was pushed into the private room. Behind the counter sat an indigo-dressed catkin that was leaning on an elbow in boredom. Then, as if woken up from laziness by seeing Tsutomu and the dog man, with a look of admiration, she called out.

“It’s rare for the shrewd puppy-chan to come here.”

“I also don’t want to see the sight of you but for now appraise this guy here. I don’t know if it’s the whim of the gods but he picked that up in his dive.”

” ... Is that a cane? Let me see let me see!”

The catkin’s cat ears stood erect and her almond-shaped pupil narrowed as she ascertained the cane that Tsutomu handed over. Mumumu, the catkin recited in a soft voice as she channeled magical power into the cane and spoke out in shock.

” ... I believe this is an item with the greatest value among all the items I have appraised.”

“Ooo.”

“Because I have insufficient skill level I could only see the chant abbreviation effect... I believe it most likely has other effects. Moreover the magical power

conductivity. The rate of increase is easily of the highest level. It has considerable value with just this feature. 10 large magic stones of the highest quality ... no! There seems to be also an additional 2 large fire magic stones! Ah, this is the price as of now! It is sacrilegious to use such a simple appraisal to appraise it so why don't I make it free of charge?"

"This guy went diving you know. Do you think he has money?"

"Oh right ... However, my skill level might increase if I appraise this, mumumu Hey you! I'm fine if you pay at a later date, so do you mind leaving it with me!? As it is now a single medium-sized magic stone of medium quality is enough!"

The white-haired catkin leaned over the counter with her body. Even though she offered to accept a middle-sized magic stone, Tsutomu had a vague expression of dissatisfaction and looked up at the dog man without thinking. "Hrmm" The dog man mumbled and scratched his chin before crouching down slightly to meet Tsutomu's sight.

"This person is disgusting but her skill in appraisal is the best. A middle-sized magic stone for appraisal fee is an unprecedented price for this person."

"There was an unnecessary word added in there, very well! How about it~? It's usually a large magic stone for this elder sister's appraisal~?"

"However, I can tell you that even though she said she allows deferred payment, she would only wait for half a day. In other words, it might be better if you just sell this cane right now."

"Hey~! Which side are you on puppy-chan~! I'm a guild staff! The same guild staff as you~! Benefiting the guild should be your top priority~!"

The dog man ignored the catkin slapping the counter as she boo-ed him and continued talking.

"That cane is probably an item of the highest rank. If you use that, you might be able to surpass the 50th-floor wall and obtain enormous fame and fortune. Do you still wish to sell that cane?"

"....."

Tsutomu pondered. That this might not be a dream but reality. The pain that he had never felt before when he was hit by the breath of that Festering Ancient Dragon. And now the dog man staring at him with a serious expression. Tsutomu could not assert that this was a dream.

If it's not a dream and instead reality, then he should make a realistic choice. If it turns out to be a dream then he can laugh it off. Tsutomu took in a deep breath and closed his eyes. A couple of seconds passed. Then, opening his narrowed eyes, he calmed down and spoke with his head.

"I'll sell it."

The creation process was extremely tough but the cane was not all there was to the current him. Even with the cane, it is meaningless without armor or tools. Tsutomu decided that gold takes precedence.

"... I see. If that is the conclusion you reached after thinking about it then it's fine."

The dog man looked at the decisive expression on Tsutomu and stood up, gesturing instructions to the catkin to appraise the item. The catkin only said that she was waiting for it and held on to the cane, her supple white tail swaying as she retreated to the back of the counter.

"The appraisal would take a couple of hours. You should take the time to create your status card. Even if you do not dive into the dungeon, it is a necessary item to entrust your G. (*TL: G most likely = gold*)

"Ah, yes. Thank you."

The 2 of them left the private room and headed for the counter that was crowded with various people. Tsutomu felt the glances from when he passed them by and from afar. It seemed like he was somehow bathed in attention and Tsutomu's pleasant expression turned stiff.

Then, they walked to the edge of the counter without anybody and the dog man pressed his hand onto the counter and leaped onto the opposite side. He laughed at the startled look on Tsutomu.

"Well then, welcome. To the guild reception of the dungeon managed by the Gods. We welcome you. Well then, I'll create your status card now, is that alright?"

"Yes. Please."

"The fee will be a 100,000 G but ... I'll pay first. Later I'll subtract it from the sale price of the cane, is that alright?"

"Yes."

"Then, please place your body fluid on this card."

The dog man slid a pure white cutting board-like object over the counter and began rummaging below the counter.

"Body fluid ...?"

"Basically blood or saliva."

"Ah, okay."

The dog man came out from below the counter and handed over a thin needle-like object but Tsutomu dripped the saliva he accumulated onto the status card on the counter. When that happened, the status card emitted a white light. It was not a dazzling light that pierced the eye but a gentle light. When it subsided, the dog man wiped the saliva off with a handkerchief and looked.

"Kyotani Tsutomu ... Ooo. LUK and MND are the same huh. Job is White Mage. Well, it's a good status for a Lv1."

Tsutomu tightly gripped the status card with both his hand after the dog man evaluated and passed it to him.

Kyotani Tsutomu

Lv 1

STR (Offensive Power) DDEX (Dexterity) D—

VIT (Robustness) D—

AGI (Agility) D—

MND (Mental Strength) D

LUK (Luck) D

Job White Mage

Skill Heal

(White Mage huh. That means it is my main account huh.)

Was it because it was his main account that accepted the god's invitation item? Tsutomu thought as he placed the status card on the counter.

"Next time, please entrust that to the reception before entering the dungeon. Divers still receive the God's gift but the God's rule will not be applied to you."

(TL: Diver = People who enter the dungeon without status cards)

"Erm God's gift? Rule?"

"Even if you die within the dungeon, you will be revived at that black door. You've already experienced that yourself. That is the God's gift. However, other than the equipment with the greatest value, everything else would be trapped in the dungeon."

The dog man pointed at the place Tsutomu face planted as he explained. Tsutomu shuddered as he recalled the breath of the Festering Ancient Dragon but the dog man continued talking without minding it.

"There is only 1 God's rule. – One shall not hold malicious intent and kill others."

"Shall?"

"In essence, you should not kill others within the dungeon. In cases where people killed people, the murderer will not be allowed to ever enter this dungeon. The weight of being forsaken by the Gods is greater than death. Absolutely do not do it."

"Ye, yes."

He brought his face closer and the intimidated Tsutomu shrunk away like when he faced the Festering Ancient Dragon.

“However, if you do not register for a status card, the Gods will not recognize you as a human. You would be treated the same as any monster in the dungeon, a diver. Even if a diver is killed in the dungeon, it would not incur the God’s rule.”

“In other words ...”

“When a diver is killed by people, they will turn into particles similar to monsters and there would almost not be any evidence. There are also idiots who enjoy killing divers. From next time onward, make sure you bring your status card along to the reception. If you do so, you would not be murdered. Worst case scenario is that you are murdered but you would be revived there.”

” ... Understood.”

The dog man deemed it was alright with Tsutomu’s reply and he held on to Tsutomu’s status card.

“That would be all for accountability. Is there anything you would like to ask?”

The dog man said as he swept away a slightly long black hair and Tsutomu raised his hand after thinking for awhile.

” ... Then, is it alright if I have a few questions?”

“Yes?”

“Firstly, about the God’s rule. Is it not violated if the person is not killed? Such as inflicting pain or intentionally guiding monsters to crash with others?”

“Ooo. You are so young but your insides are so sinister.”

“Why thank you” Tsutomu replied as the dog man pondered and folded his arms.

“Unfortunately, as long as a life is not deprived, the God’s rule would not be applicable. In addition, attacks that hold no malicious intent such as a misfired spell would not raise the rule. Even if you died under such attacks, the God’s rule would not be applied and you would be revived at that black door. However, regarding guiding monsters …”

“Ah, would that trigger the rule?”

The dog man seemed like he had trouble saying the words and he shook his head.

“Guiding monsters does not violate the God’s rule. However, about that previously mentioned case and rare drops, there are many idiots who do not think of the consequences and clash with each other.”

” … Because of that huh.”

“Yeah. That’s correct.”

Tsutomu pointed at the monitors that floated about when they reached the building and the dog man silently nodded.

“That is an item that God displays the parties that are within the dungeon. Though, it basically shows the party that has the furthest conquering progress or parties that are waging battles. Just within this building alone, there are about 50 of them installed. If that previously mentioned actions are caught by somebody …”

“They would lose credibility. Nobody would willingly enter such parties. They would also suffer retaliations.”

“That’s right. Which is why at the very least those who belong to clans would not clash with others. If they did, their clan’s reputation and popularity would fall and they would naturally be expelled from the clan. All of the clans strictly impart that to their members.”

"I see ... Ah, then is it alright if I ask another 2 more questions?"

"Yes?"

Tsutomu took note of his surroundings before speaking in a soft voice.

"I wish to hire something like escorts but are there such schemes within the guild? If such schemes are available, I would like to hire you if it is possible."

"... Houhou. It's surprising for a person who did not know about status cards to know about that."

"It's easy to infer after seeing that."

The guild staff dressed in indigo uniform and the individuals who exit the black door. Tsutomu noticed since before that most of them left the guild together with the guild staffs or queued together at the guild reception.

Those that exited the black door mostly only have a single weapon or armor and wore the same outfit as Tsutomu as they were spat out. In addition to the guild staffs that guide them until the outside of the guild. Tsutomu felt doubtful as to why they guided them to the entrance of the guild, not to mention guiding them until the reception area.

However, hearing about the diver hunting from the dog man, he could infer that the public safety here was not as good. He could immediately imagine the malicious look garnered outside by appearing with such thin attires.

"Also, if it is possible I would like a tutorial ... do you understand what I mean if I say that? I would be thankful to learn the basics of conquering the dungeon and the common sense in the dungeon. It's, it's because of that. I'm an orphan so I don't know the common sense."

“Umu, certainly there are no such systems, but guild staffs can personally accept requests. I understand the contents of your request. I’ll accept your request.”

“Thank you. I have one last question.”

“Umu, I’m slightly looking forward to your remaining question. I can answer most of your inquiries.”

The dog man pounded his trained chest as Tsutomu threw his last question at him.

“Please tell me your name.”

” ... I’m Garm. Best regards from now on. Kyotani Tsutomu-dono.”

“Ah, Tsutomu is fine.”

Tsutomu’s narrow eyes further narrowed and a smile appeared on his expression as he saw Garm let loose a slightly poisonous air.

| [Main](#) |

Related

Chapter 003

Hi guys, I'll most likely pause my translation of LD here for now. Sorry for bringing this story to you guys and stopping the translations but I was informed that Saigo from saigotranslation contacted the author and the author did not give his approval so I'll be putting the translation for this series on hiatus until further notice. Sorry orz.

Chapter 003

Translator: Tseirp

A month passed since Tsutomu requested for Garm to escort him and to impart knowledge to him. During that time, Tsutomu once again lost himself in this game world as he studied under Garm.

He learnt topographical information of the Labyrinth City such as where the public safety was bad and where it was good and was introduced to shops lined with good products. The placement of the shops was mostly the same as in the game but the game was played with third person view so he was thankful for the guidance. In addition, there were many shops that were not there in the game lined up along the streets.

Tsutomu was taught a wide variety of knowledge by Garm such as common sense and equipment. Thanks to that, within a month, inclusive of his living expenses and compensation for the request, he had to pay one large magic stone of the highest quality but Tsutomu was not especially concerned.

The catkin that appraised his black cane recognized that he could obtain a minimum of 20 large magic stones of the highest quality for it and after he obtained the appraisal certificate from the catkin, he followed her recommendation and passed it to her to display it in the guild-organized auction.

It fished a final price of 32 large magic stone of highest quality. The guild collected one large magic stone as handling fee but he still had 30 large magic stones of the highest quality on hand. Converting it to G, he would get about 30 million G. It was a large sum enough to live a modest life in this world for about 20-30 years.

However, Tsutomu did not give up on returning to his original world. Most of his friends were only friends because he had a use for them and it was mutual so there's no problem there but he felt sorry for his parents. Even if there is no desire to return, he still held the desire to be capable of returning.

Dungeon conquest. The hope that he would be able to return if he conquered the dungeon. Tsutomu came to this world by receiving an invitation from the Gods. Then, there was the talk about the Gods managing this dungeon. It could be linked together easily.

Tsutomu held that desire within his heart and considered how to use the 30 million G with conquering the dungeon as his aim.

Currently, the highest floor reached was the 59th floor. It seems like that record had not moved since half a year ago. The quickest shortcut, if his aim was the 100th floor, would be to join the clan that achieved the record of highest floor reached, which was also proposed by Garm.

However, Tsutomu knew about the existence of the back dungeon. Thinking that if it is required to conquer the back dungeon as well when he returns to his original world, Tsutomu determined that it would be better to establish his own clan.

Clans could be established with 1 million G. The problem of G was easily cleared but he also had to gather a party of 3 including himself to set up the clan.

That 2 party members. Tsutomu's first goal was to gather the basic tank and attacker to establish his clan. In any case, he would have to solicit members to achieve that goal.

However, Tsutomu's nickname was currently being spread within the guild, causing him to fall into a situation where it was practically impossible to solicit people...

"Hey, lucky boy. Are you being taken out for a walk by Garm today as well?"

"How nice~ The rich have such luxurious equipment! Come split some of that money~"

"Let's make a party together lucky boy! But the reward would be equally split~!"

Gyahahahah!!"

Such jeers came flying within the guild-furnished canteen. Garm who was sitting beside Tsutomu had already run out of glares and averted his gaze while clicking his tongue at the explorers with a red face since during the day.

Exactly as what was said by the explorers, Tsutomu's equipment experienced a huge change from a month ago. A pure white robe tinged with a faint light and a similarly white pants wrapped in pale light. Elongated containers containing green recovery potions hung on his specially made belt coiled around his waist.

Carried on his shoulder was the expensive magic bag with the largest carrying capacity but smallest external size along with crime prevention functionality. Stored within it were various kinds of equipment and items.

Tsutomu, who spent 20 large magic stones of the highest quality on renewing his equipment, ignored the words from the explorers and followed behind Garm.

The person who obtained the highest ranked treasure chest that unusually appeared on the 1st floor. Coupled with the hype driven by the appraisal catkin at the auction, the news spread to the guild within the blink of an eye. Now, even after Tsutomu exits the guild, he was still pointed at and called lucky boy. The reason was that the monitors installed by the Gods in the city were the sole newspaper reporter and information agency.

The monitors that God displays the individuals within the dungeon was not only present within the guild but tens of them were also installed in the city square. Except for the magic stones, within the city that had culture close to the middle ages, the greatest leisure was looking at the dungeon delivered by the Gods.

Also, the dominant clan's 1st string Black Mage, a woman called Alma, was popular among the city's people due to her blessed looks. When she defeated the 60th-floor boss Fire Dragon while wielding the black cane that she successfully bid for in the auction, she harmoniously said to her friends.

"I'm really thankful for that lucky boy! Thanks to him we can finally break the 50th-floor wall."

Within the dungeon under the complete jurisdiction of the Gods, the core clan

member of the clan could make a statement when the highest reached floor is updated. And then, with that strangely amusing post on the news, along with the useless efforts from the explorers envious of the enormous G earned by Tsutomu, Tsutomu's face was spread within the city.

(I wonder if this is how the person who draws the grand prize in a lottery feels ...)

The lucky boy trapped within the guild by jealousy and contempt. The majority of the people within the city called him that. Regardless of whether the city's inhabitants harboured any malicious intent, Tsutomu was fed up.

However, there wasn't just misfortune. The guild heavily watched the dishonourable nickname attached to Tsutomu and to conceal the nickname, had Garm escort him and form his party member. Also, Amy, the catkin who pointlessly spread rumours about him at the auction was also pulled in to escort him and form his party member and was loaned out by the guild for free.

"Sorry. Tsutomu."

Garm's black dog ears folded down as he apologized to Tsutomu for the lucky boy jeers he received within the guild but Tsutomu's white robe flapped as he waved his hand saying that it was alright.

"If I did not become lucky boy, I might have partied with those despicable people at the 1st floor. I'm a lucky person to be able to form a party with Garm-san and Amy-san."

"... It's my heartfelt thoughts that it is good that Tsutomu does not let the nickname affect you much."

Garm returned a serious expression at the small voice and detached attitude of Tsutomu that was contrary to his expectation and lined up at the reception.

"Nevertheless, is Amy still not here. It's already been 10 minutes past the appointed time."

Garm resentfully clicked his tongue as he looked at the time displayed on the monitor. Tsutomu had a wry grin as he looked around the guild.

"She generally comes at around this timing. For this whole week."

"I wonder if she knows whose fault is it exactly that caused this commotion. In the first place tracing back to the origin, for Tsutomu who was bestowed with luck by the Gods to fall into such stigma, the principal culprit was her. Originally, she would not be able to complain if her seat as a guild staff was taken away but thanks to Tsutomu's kindness her punishment was reduced to such a degree. A person who cannot decently clear such a light punishment does not have the qualifications to be a staff of the guild at the entrance of the dungeon managed by the Gods. Tsutomu. It is still not too late. You can ... "

"Yes~! Please immediately stop the plans to restructure me!"

Shuba! Amy who flew out from behind placed her hand onto Garm's shoulder and flipped over. Then, she landed on the opposite side of Garm, sandwiching Tsutomu in between. Tsutomu felt slightly disappointed as he would have been able to see if not for the indigo pants.

"You, how many times do you need to be late before you are satisfied!"

"Unlike puppy-chan the leisurely gatekeeper, I have my appraisal work to do~! I'm a busy person~! Ah, Tsutomu. Sorry for coming late!"

He totally could not see any traces of her repenting with her tongue stuck out but after seeing her come late for 2 weeks consecutively, Tsutomu was conversely impressed and replied with the same words.

"Please don't be late the next time."

"Yes~! Ah, that place seems like it is empty, there! Let's go let's go!"

Amy went toward the middle-aged man with shaven hair that was unpopular among the explorers as Garm chased after her with complaints. Tsutomu followed the 2 of them.

"Uncle! Make my status card!" (*TL: She shortened status card to staca*)

"Shut up you idiot. Hurry up and spit out your saliva!"

"Sorry for the trouble."

"Oh, Garm. Thank you for your hardship with Amy today as well. Tsutomu also."

"Ahahah ..."

With a smile on his face that could make dungeon monsters flee, the man patted Tsutomu's head as Tsutomu dripped his saliva on the white paper he took out. Amy and Garm also did the same on similar paper that was handed to them.

The receptionist man took the small slips of paper and inserted them into the large machine equipped with magic stone behind him. Upon doing so, 3 cards were extracted from the massive status card behind the counter and placed on the counter.

"Uwa. Spitting. So disgusting."

"Does lucky boy still can't endure pain~?"

Such soft voices came flying from Tsutomu's side. The ill-bred party lining up beside him laughed until their lips protruded out while the other lined up parties whispered among their companions and scoffed at Tsutomu's actions.

Similar to when he registered for his status card, the receptionists requested for explorers' body fluids. There are 2 main purposes. Since it was time-consuming to manually manipulate the massive status card, with magic stone as the driving force, the labour was simplified. The other purpose was to use the body fluids to organize parties using the status cards.

It was basically offered that the body fluids could be either blood or saliva, but the trend among explorers was that those who submitted saliva were cowards who fear the pain of needles. Tsutomu heard of such trends ahead of time from Garm.

However, Tsutomu felt that it was wasteful to pierce his finger every time he enters the dungeon and he would rather not experience the pain. Tsutomu always felt that he could not understand why the explorers felt proud as they cut their own palms and show the blood to the beautiful reception ladies.

Also, they would have to use a potion or bother a healer to tend to them so he will definitely not become a healer for such a party. It's not like there weren't any complaints about the current situation but Tsutomu was thankful for the luck of forming a party with Garm and Amy.

While placating Amy who was complaining to the party lining up beside them, Tsutomu looked at his own status card that turned from white to yellowish

green. Even though his level was raised to 9, there weren't any changes in his status. However, Tsutomu secretly made a guts pose after seeing his level.

Garm's and Amy's status cards were blue. The colour of the status card indicates the highest floor the individual has been to. Tsutomu's was the symbolic yellow-green colour of the first-floor grasslands. Garm's and Amy's represented the blue sea of the beach. In other words, they have already reached the 40th floor before.

"Those insects seriously makes me angry ..."

"I've said it many times but it's alright if you don't join us?"

"If that's the case then wouldn't I be of the same opinion as those insects~!?
No way!"

Amy's pink lips thinned and her white tail stood up as Garm placed the status card on the reception while he glared at her.

"Then don't complain and shut up."

"Yes yes faithful dog-san is the greatest~. He doesn't say a word of complaint as he waits! He's so obedient that I want to puke my guts out!"

"... Looks like you would not understand without experiencing pain once."

"It's amazing how you 2 can continue bickering like that without feeling weary. To the point that I'm afraid that you 2 would break the rule within the dungeon."

The receptionist man sighed as if he had given up and threw the papers with saliva on them into a red lantern placed on the reception.

"Hey, the party application is complete. Is splitting the reward to 3 equal parts alright?"

"Yes. That's fine."

"If your status cards have been updated then hurry up and leave. Especially Amy, you're a nuisance."

"At any rate, nobody lines up here anyway! Peh~! Baldy!"

Amy stuck her tongue out and cried out as she ran toward the entrance of the dungeon. After bowing to the receptionist man who had a blue vein popping on

his forehead, Garm and Tsutomu chased after Amy.

The dungeon's entrance had magic circles that were about the width of 5 people lined-up side-by-side. It was installed at 5 locations in a row.

Explorers entered those magic circles in succession, leaving behind light particles after entering. That was already a familiar sight to Tsutomu but he was made fun of by Amy because he was scared when he first used the magic circle.

It quickly reached their turn so Tsutomu immediately entered the magic circle. While humming nya nya, Amy's hand was gripped by Tsutomu and she stared at him.

"Eh? Is it alright to hold hands already?"

"Yes. I'll hold on to Garm-san as well. The worst case would be Amy-san flying off to another place but if I have Garm around then I'll be fine. Bye bye Amy-san."

Tsutomu grinned as he held on to Garm's hand and Amy's white cat ears twitched under her anxiety.

"Hm, hmpf! I don't care about Tsutomu anymore!!"

"Even though you said that, you're still holding onto my hands huh Amy-san."

"I don't know what you're talking about! Today will be an intensive training at the grasslands as well! Look forward to it!"

Tsutomu unconsciously snorted when she forcibly grabbed onto his hand midway through but Amy extended a claw and began scratching the hand she was holding on to. Ouchhhhh, Tsutomu's expression distorted as he called out.

"Transfer to the 1st floor!"

Like the other explorers, Tsutomu and the 2 others disappeared from the guild, leaving behind light particles.

| [Main](#) | [Next](#)

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